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Greetings Seattle Business Community:



Happy New Year. I'm excited about the coming year as OED continues to provide direct services to help your businesses grow and compete. We're seeing signs of recovery in our local economic activity, and we're focused on providing businesses with access to credit and other services, investing in our neighborhood business districts and supporting our local industry sectors to be more competitive. 2010 was a big year as we launched the mayor's [Seattle Jobs Plan](#), our [growseattle.com](#) business services portal, our neighborhood marketing campaign, [OnlyinSeattle.org](#), and [City Business Casual](#) networking events. We look forward to another busy year serving you and helping Seattle's economic recovery.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Johnson
Director

January 2011

NEWS & INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS



Tell Your Colleagues About the *Daily Digest*!



Are you and your friends signed up for OED's *Daily Digest*? Compiled from over 100 news sources, the OED [Daily Digest](#) is the best way to keep up with the latest in business, technology, workforce, industry, real estate, maritime, energy and economic development news in Seattle.

NEWS & INFORMATION

Economic recovery forecast is slow and steady, Global Health collaboration is in high gear

On January 13, enterpriseSeattle held their 39th Annual Economic Conference at the Westin Hotel with over 550 attendees. A panel of three top economists led the discussion about the economic recovery for the nation and the region. In addition to forecasting the signs of a slow recovery for the Puget Sound, global health opportunities were shared by leaders in global health from Washington and around the world. Governor





Gregoire addressed the sold-out crowd followed by Martha Choe of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. If you missed this informative event and would like to know the future for the Puget Sound economy, enterpriseSeattle has conveniently archived the webcast online. Check out the PowerPoint presentations from the top economists and listen to the plans Governor Gregoire has to boost economic recovery and cut spending.

- [Bottom Line blog coverage](#)
- [enterpriseSeattle](#)
- [Seattle Times article on the economic forecast event](#)



Bullitt Foundation's 'green' office building gets key permit from city, OED assists with \$11.5 million in financing



The environment-oriented Bullitt Foundation has proposed constructing a pioneering "living building" at 15th Avenue and East Madison Street. Called the Cascadia Center for Sustainable Design and Construction, it would generate as much power as it consumes, and rely almost exclusively on rain that falls on its roof for water. The Office of Economic Development allocated \$11.5 million in Recovery Zone Facility Bonds as part of the financing for the project.

- [Seattle Times reports on Bullitt Foundation's "living building"](#)



WA State awards grants to IPZs to spur cluster development. OED to assist with global health sector



Washington State awarded grants to the tune of \$217,000 to five Innovative Partnership Zones (IPZ). OED secured \$55,000 for the City of Seattle to analyze opportunities and connect

Washington-based companies to new markets in the global health sector. Aside from Global Health, three other industries will benefit from the grant funds: Clean tech, renewable energy, and the wine industry. Supporting sources are matching the grant funds to the five IPZs to leverage the impact of the proposed work.

- [Washington State Department of Commerce press release](#)





OED asking businesses to host electric vehicle charging stations



ECOtality, responsible for the creation and installation of the electric vehicle charging stations, is receiving assistance from OED to find businesses who want to participate in hosting charging stations. OED's Charlie Cunniff recommends that businesses with a parking lot apply due to the added benefit it will provide to customers who use this equipment; they will be able to charge up while parked. The people from ECOtality , who manage the EV (electric vehicle)Project, can provide free charging stations and low, and in some cases free, installations at businesses that have parking lots available to the public. If you want a further discussion or demonstration or are interested in installing a charging station at your business, contact Dan O'Shea at doshea@ecotality.com, or 206-920-1477.

- [Read more on the PhinneyWood website](#)
- [More information on ECOtality's EV project](#)

OED³ - New business in Seattle: Infratel, Dope Burger, and Carnival Seabourn

You can always find OED³ on OED's [Bottom Line](#) blog for the best recap of the most popular [Daily Digest](#) stories, but in this special edition, OED³ provides you with the latest recap of what new businesses are popping up in Seattle, as well as existing businesses that have relocated their headquarters here. This edition features Infratel, a leading provider of call center products and services, Dope Burger, a new restaurant in Belltown, and Carnival's Seabourn cruise ship line. Infratel has chosen Seattle as its new North American headquarters and they will be hiring sales and operations professionals to work out of this location. Our new Belltown restaurant, Dope Burger, offers classic burgers for the moderate fan and giant specialty burgers for the fanatics. Walk and shop around Belltown until your appetite calls, then satisfy it with a Dope Burger and milkshake. Reviews for this establishment have already been outstanding. Try one today! Carnival, a Miami-based cruise line company, announced that it will move its top-tier Seabourn division to Seattle, near the waterfront. Approximately 50 people will staff the new headquarters.

- [Infratel chooses Seattle as North American headquarters](#)
- [Dope Burger website](#)
- [Puget Sound Business Journal's coverage of Seabourn's move to Seattle](#)

Happy New Year! The Port of Seattle Celebrates its Centennial Year in 2011



Founded by King County citizens on September 5, 1911, the port has served the state as a global gateway for a century - creating jobs and economic growth for all of Washington and serving as a catalyst for the global trade that has driven the state's economy for generations. "For 100 years the port has generated jobs for families throughout King County," said Commission President Bill Bryant. "We're focused on ensuring our port generates sustainable jobs for another 100 years." Check out the schedule for several activities to mark the anniversary, as well as a new website dedicated to celebrating the Port's centennial year. In addition, if you missed the news that The Port of Seattle hit a record container count with more than 2.1 million 20-foot equivalent units in 2010, and want to read more about it, check out the press release below. It's the first time the port has broken the two million container barrier.

- [Press release on the Port of Seattle celebrating the centennial year](#)
 - [Port of Seattle's new centennial website](#)
 - [Port of Seattle breaks cargo record in 2010](#)
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Seattle is 10th-best in U.S. for business



Seattle is the nation's tenth-best city for business out of 102 major metro areas, *MarketWatch* declares in its annual ranking. Seattle climbed from No. 31 last year. *MarketWatch* evaluated two categories: company score and economic score. The company score consists of the concentration of businesses within a metro area, and the economic score takes into account: unemployment, job growth, population growth, personal income and local gross domestic product.

- [Read more about Seattle's ranking from the Puget Sound Business Journal](#)
 - [MarketWatch report with the complete rankings](#)
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Inc.'s 31 days to a better business

With the New Year come new goals, resolutions, and an opportunity to reevaluate one's business strategies. To help get a productive start on the New Year, Inc. has compiled a list of 31 tips to help improve one's business - one day at a time. Don't forget to check back at the end of the month to see all 31 tips.

- [Inc.'s 31 days to better business](#)



Reinvent your business in the new year

Sooner or later, all businesses, even the most successful, run out of room to grow. Faced with this unpleasant reality, they are compelled to reinvent themselves periodically. The ability to pull off this difficult feat is what separates high performers from those whose time at the top is all too brief.

- [Harvard Business Review's article on reinventing your business](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seattle City Hall Open House - Saturday, Jan. 29



Mayor Mike McGinn and City Council, along with departments across city government, are hosting a City Hall open house to take place **Saturday, January 29 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** For those of you who are unfamiliar with City Hall, it is located at 600 4th Avenue (between Cherry St. and James St.) in downtown Seattle. Mayor McGinn will highlight 2011 plans for his Engage Seattle Initiative and the Cities of Service plan. Staff and volunteers will also conduct tours of the Mayor's Office. OED and the Office of Film + Music will have staff on hand there to answer questions.

- [City Hall Open House press release and agenda](#)
- [City Hall Open House guide to exhibits, displays performances and city booths](#)

Register for DSA's State of Downtown event - February

3,

2011



The Downtown Seattle Association, in partnership with the Office of Economic Development and enterpriseSeattle, are highly anticipating the 2011 State of Downtown Economic Forum. Attendees will receive a copy of DSA's 2011 State of Downtown Economic Report, compiled by the Metropolitan Improvement District's Business Development and Market Research Department. The report will contain valuable year-over-year analysis on key components that make up downtown Seattle's economy. Featured speakers include: John Vechey, co-founder and vice president of PopCap games; Robert Atkinson, founder and president of Information Technology and Innovation Foundation; and Mayor Mike McGinn. Register now as last year's event sold out!

- [Read more about DSA's State of Downtown Economic Forum](#)
- [Register today!](#)

Join Councilmember Harrell, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce President Bussey and more at *City Business Casual* - Thursday, February 10



January's *City Business Casual* was a hit with Mayor Mike McGinn, Councilmember Sally Clark, and Downtown Seattle Association president Kate Joncas networking with over 100 members of the community. On February 10, **Seattle City Councilmember Bruce Harrell** and **Mr. Phil Bussey**, president of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce will attend to discuss the local economy. Next month's event will take place on **Thursday, February 10** from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Polar Bar at the Arctic Club Hotel (700 3rd Avenue) in downtown Seattle. No pre-registration for *City Business Casual* is necessary. The sessions do not include a formal program, but OED staff will actively make introductions and connections. Business owners and advocates will have a chance to ask questions, suggest ideas, and troubleshoot specific issues.

- [Visit *City Business Casual* online for a complete schedule of 2011](#)
- [Councilmember Harrell's City webpage](#)
- [Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce - Phil Bussey](#)



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